PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Forty-Sixth Grand Annual Communication

OF THE

M. W. GRAND LODGE

OF

Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons

OF THE

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

HELD AT THE

SENATE CHAMBER, IN THE CITY OF JACKSON,

January 19th and 20th, A. L. 5863, A. D. 1863.

SA

The Mt. Pis
ninth annual m
The Introdu
from Eph., 4th
the faith, &c,'
After an int
churches met i
by the Moder
Murrell.
Elds. J. L.
appointed to re
Brother T.
A Committe
J. L. Gresham,
Elds. J. C.
at the stand th
Letters were
enrolled and
Pisgah church
On motion o
of officers by
chosen by accl
officers. N.
Bailiff, Treasu
The Modera
body organize
Reading the
Visiting bre
The way wa
application.
Called for co

MINUTES.

SATURDAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

PLEASANT HILL CHURCH, NEWTON CO. MISS. }
September 16th, 1865. }

The Mt. Pisgah Baptist Association met this day, in her twenty-ninth annual meeting, according to adjournment.

The Introductory Sermon was delivered by Eld. N. L. Clarke, from Eph., 4th Chap., 13th verse, "Till we all come in the unity of the faith, &c." Theme—Christian unity.

After an intermission of half an hour, the delegates from the churches met in the house, and the Association was called to order by the Moderator, Eld. N. L. Clarke. Prayer by Eld. L. P. Murrell.

Elds. J. L. Matthews, A. Clarke, and brother A. Eastland were appointed to read letters.

Brother T. J. Denson was appointed assistant Clerk.

A Committee on finance was appointed; consisting of brethren J. L. Gresham, Chairman; W. W. Hardy and A. G. Anderson.

Elds. J. C. Ellerbe and D. D. Booth were requested to preach at the stand this evening.

Letters were read from thirty three churches, names of delegates enrolled and general statistics noted. Homewood and Mt. Pisgah churches not represented. (See table of churches.)

On motion of brother A. Eastland, the rule requiring the election of officers by *ballot only*, was suspended and the officers were chosen by acclamation; which resulted in the re-election of former officers. N. L. Clarke, Moderator; W. H. Butler, Clerk; I. Bailiff, Treasurer.

The Moderator made appropriate remarks, and announced the body organized and ready for business.

Reading the Rules of Decorum was postponed till Monday.

Visiting brethren were invited to seats.

The way was opened for the admission of new churches. No application.

Called for correspondence from other bodies.

Received from Bethlehem Association, a letter by the hands of Eld. J. L. Matthews; her messenger; who was welcomed to a seat with the Association.

Proceeded to the appointment of Committees.

COMMITTEE ON PREACHING: Brethren L. P. Murrell, Chairman; A. Eastland, E. E. Haralson, J. M. Pace, who immediately retired to arrange services for Lord's day.

COMMITTEE TO WRITE LETTERS: Brethren P. S. McCormick, Chairman; T. J. Denson, T. Keith.

COMMITTEE ON QUERIES AND REQUESTS: Brethren F. Sansing, Chairman; I. Bailiff, W. A. Hutto.

COMMITTE ON STATE OF RELIGION: Brethren A. Grissett, Chairman; H. Dunn, D. D. Booth, J. W. Moore, A. Clarke. On motion the Moderator was added.

COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS: Brethren J. L. Lattimore, Chairman; H. Cooper, J. C. Ellerbee, S. S. Windham.

COMMITTEE ON SABBATH SCHOOLS: Brethren J. L. Gresham, Chairman; W. R. Butler, D. Fore, D. Dove.

COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS: Brethren W. Graham, Chairman; A. P. Wash, E. W. Roebuck, T. S. Smith, M. D. King.

The Committee on Preaching, having arranged services for Lord's day, made their report as follows: Eld. J. L. Lattimore appointed to preach the 11 o'clock sermon. Eld. W. R. Butler to preach in the evening, followed by Eld. J. L. Matthews.

Resolved, That a public collection be taken up for Domestic Missions after the 11 o'clock services to-morrow.

Leave of absence from the body was granted brethren W. Graham, P. S. McCormick and J. E. Ferguson.

Adjourned to 9 o'clock, A. M. Monday. Prayer by the Moderator.

LORD'S DAY.

The brethren appointed to preach to-day performed the work assigned them faithfully. Brother Lattimore founded a discourse on Heb. 2d Chapt., 1st clause of 3d verse. Brother Butler, upon Luke 24th Chapt., 46 and 47 verses. In consequence of the threatening appearance of the weather, brother Matthews closed merely by prayer. At the close of brother Lattimore's sermon a collection was taken up for Domestic Missions, amounting to $29,35. (See Financial Report.)

MONDAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

MONDAY, 9 O'CLOCK, A. M.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by Eld. J. L. Matthews.

The roll was called. Brother L. L. Viveret being necessarily absent, was excused.

The Rules of Decorum were read, as referred from Saturday.

Committee on Preaching report Elds. A. Grissett and W. A. Hutson to preach at the stand to-day.

The former order of business was adopted.

Called for reports of committees.

Committee to Write Letters reported. Report adopted. (See App. A.)

Committee on Queries and Requests reported. After some discussion and amendment, the report was adopted. (See App. B.)

Committee On Missions reported.

After interesting remarks from various brethren, and some amendment, the report was adopted. (See App. C.)

Committee On Sabbath Schools reported. Report adopted, after remarks from brethren Lattimore and Gresham. (See App. D.)

Committee On State of Religion reported. Report adopted. (See App. E.)

Committee On Nominations reported. Report adopted. (See App. F.)

Committee On Finance reported. Report adopted. (See App. G.)

Proceeded to arrange correspondence with other bodies.

Appointed as Messengers to Salem Association, Elds. N. L. Clarke and J. C. Ellerbe. To Bethlehem Association, Elds. N. L. Clarke and J. C. Ellerbe.

Resolved, That we discontinue correspondence with Harmony Association.

Proceeded to the appointment of representatives to the General Association Regular Baptist S. E. Miss. The following brethren were appointed: J. L. Lattimore, I. Bailiff, J. D. Parker, L. P. Murrell, D. Dove, W. R. Butler, J. L. Gresham, W. W. Hardy, S. Everett, M. B. Kirk, J. Herrington, F. S. Smith, O. F. Breland, A. Grissett, J. Giles, D. Fore.

Resolved, That this Association transfer all the money on hand for Missions to the General Association. And that the Treasurer be instructed to hand over the same to our representatives to that body.

Resolved, That the 4th article of the Rules of Decorum (requiring our officers to be chosen by *ballot only*) be so amended as to provide for their election by *ballot or otherwise*.

Resolved, That the next session of this body be held with Pinckney church, Newton Co., Miss., on Saturday before the 3rd Lord's day in September, A. D. 1866.

Resolved, That Eld. W. R. Buttler be appointed to preach the next Introductory Sermon, and Eld. L. P. Murrell be his alternate.

Resolved, That the Clerk be instructed to have these Minutes printed; including the form of Association letter published last year, distribute them,—no church being allowed more Minutes than her money sent up will pay for,—reserve a sufficient number for corresponding purposes, receive twenty dollars for his services and draw on the Treasurer for the necessary funds.

Resolved, That the 23d article of the Rules of Decorum be so amended as to change the time of the *reading* of said Rules from the regular time on Saturday to Monday, when the body re-assembles.

On motion a Special Committee of three was appointed to draft a resolution expressive of the sense of this body in regard to our present condition as a people. Brethren J. L. Lattimore, W. W. Hardy and J. L. Gresham were appointed on said committee. The following is a copy of the resolution reported by said committee and adopted by this body—after impressive remarks from brethren Lattimore, Eastland, Ellerbe and Murrell:

WHEREAS, God in the wise dispensation of His Providence has seen fit to withhold from us the blessings of Liberty and Independence, for which we as a people have been struggling for the last four years, therefore,

Resolved, That while we cherish a fond attachment for our *beloved South* and the principles for which we struggled, yet at the same time, we feel that it becomes us to be reconciled to His will; and acknowledge His chastening hand in our present humiliation, and adore his goodness that has preserved so many of our noble countrymen through the struggle.

Resolved, That the thanks of this body are due, and are hereby tendered, to this church and community for the kind and hospitable manner in which they have supported this association.

Resolved, That we now adjourn to meet at the time and place above mentioned.

The brethren united in singing that good old hymn, "Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound," extending to each other the parting hand of brotherly love and fellowship. Brother Clarke led in prayer. And thus closed the twenty-ninth annual session of the Mt. Pisgah Baptist Association, unsurpassed, if ever equalled, for harmony and tokens of brotherly love, by any former meeting. "How good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity."

N. L. CLARKE, Moderator.

W. R. BUTLER, Clerk.

Ordained Ministers and their Post Offices.

Names.	*Post Offices.*	*Names.*	*Post Offices.*
L. P. Murrell,	Lake Station.	D. Fore,	Lake Station
N. L. Clarke,	Decatur,	J. L. Lattimore,	Garlandsville.
W. A. Hutson,	Hillsboro.	S. King,	"
J. B. Hamberlin,	"	J. Williams,	Pineville.
W. R. But'er	"	F. M. Poole,	Calvert's Store.
D. D. Booth,	Beach Springs.	G. W. Gunn,	Trenton.
W. A. Hutto,	Sebastapol.	J. Herrington,	Union.
A. Clarke,	Lake Station.	A. Winstead,	"
J. C. Ellerbe,	Battlefield.	J. P. Vaughan,	Chunkey Stat'n.
A. Grisseet,	Decatur.	D. Dove,	" "

Licentiates and their Post Offices.

Names.	*Post Offices.*	*Names.*	*Post Offices.*
J. S. Pledger,	Forest.	H. A. Stephens,	Decatur.
M. B. Kirk,	Beach Spring.	S. W. Carr,	Lake Station.
L. B. Dover,	" "	W. M. Flannagan,	Garlandsville.
O. F. Breland,	Union.		

APPENDICES.

A

Report of Committee to Write Letters.

Letters given in manuscript to messengers to other bodies and not ordered to be published in these Minutes.

B

Report of Committee on Queries and Requests.

Your Committee report that they would recommend that the request of Pinckney church, for the next Session of the Association to be held with her, be granted.

As to the query from Herbert church, relative to church members having or tolerating dancing parties at their houses; we would recommend that Gospel steps be taken in such cases with the offenders. And that it be given, as the sense of this Association, that the Baptists, as a people, have ever been opposed to dancing and kindred practices. This body wishing to walk in the footsteps of that *same faith*, and while we could not decide for a church in any given case, yet we would advise the churches to keep themselves pure from such practices according to the Gospel.

As to the query from Center Hill church relative to a member being divorced and marrying again: We recommend that the course prescribed by the laws of Christ be pursued—and that it also be given as the sense of this body, that the obtaining of a divorce gives no man or woman the right, according to the Gospel, to take another companion while the former one is living—Mark 10th Chapt. 2—12 verses. Rom. 7th Chapt. 2—12 verses.

Relative to the query from New Prospect church, as to the colored membership: We recommend that the churches retain such members in fellowship, unless guilty of unchristian conduct.

Respectfully submitted.

FRANCIS SANSING, Chairman.

C

Report of Committee on Missions.

Your Committee submit the following report: God has committed to us, in a great degree, the interests of His kingdom, and the extension of it among our fellow creatures. We, as his stewards, are called upon to send the Gospel where it is not. We wish others to enjoy the same blessings of which we are the recipients. We should feel it to be our duty to carry the bread of life to the destitute. While the condition of our country is to be deplored, and dark clouds seem to lower about us, yet we do not feel that we are excused from discharging our duty to the destitute portions of our country. And God has again opened the way for sending the Gospel to the heathen, and it is our duty to renew our efforts in that direction. We regret that so little has been done for the cause of Missions, and would urge upon the churches to collect funds to be forwarded to this body, until we shall be able to increase the number of faithful workmen in the field. And we would recommend the membership of the churches of this body to give liberally to this object, according as the Lord prospers them.

Respectfully submitted.

J. L. LATTIMORE, Chairman.

D

Report of Committee on Sabbath Schools.

Your Committee report that they would urge the establishment of a Sabbath School in every church. We fear that the importance of that institution has not been as forcibly urged by our ministering brethren as the interest of the cause requires.

In all the churches composing this body, only one Sabbath School is reported as being kept up. We believe that they are second only to the preaching of the Gospel, as a means in the hands of God for the conversion of sinners.

Such is the history of every church where a Sabbath School has been kept in active operation. We might give many instances of this truth. Suffice it to say, that in the church where the Sabbath School is reported in operation, out of thirteen conversions, seven of that number are Sabbath school scholars, and several of them have dated their impressions as commencing in the school.

We therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the pastors of our churches be recommended to lay the claims of Sabbath Schools before their respective charges, and that each church be affectionately urged to establish and sustain a Sabbath school in her midst.

Respectfully submitted,

J. L. GRESHAM, Chairman.

E

Report of Committee on State of Religion.

Your Committee report, That, from the reading of the letters from the various churches of this body, some of them complain of coldness. We would admonish them to "repent and do their first work." But we are happy to say that most of the churches seem to be in a prosperous condition, and notwithstanding the demoralized state of society, peace and harmony seem to prevail, and many of the churches have enjoyed precious revivals, for which we have great reason to praise God and take courage. Our churches have all had regular preaching.

Respectfully submitted,

A. GRISSETT, Chairman.

F

Report of Committee on Nominations.

Your Committee report, That they have nominated Eld. W. R. Butler to preach the next Introductory Sermon and Eld. L. P. Murrell, his alternate. Respectfully submitted,

W. GRAHAM, Chairman.

G

Report of Committee on Finance.

Your Committee beg leave to report, That they have examined the Treasurer's report, and find a balance in his hands as per report,

For Associational purposes amounting to,	$181 60
Balance on hand for Missionary purposes,	119 99
Received from Churches for Associational purposes,	129 45*
Received from Pine Ridge church for Domestic Missions,	11 50
Collected on Lord's day for Domestic Missions,	29 35
Total,	$551 89†

Respectfully submitted,

J. L. GRESHAM, Chairman.

*The several sums received from the churches for Associational purposes amount only to $125 59, according to my calculation. CLERK.

†$381 59 of the above amount is in Confederate money, and the Association authorized the Treasurer to drop it from his report as worthless. CLERK.

Blank form of Letter for the use of Churches.

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, _____ COUNTY.
_____ Regular Baptist Church of Christ.

To Mt. Pisgah Association in Annual meeting for 186–:

DEAR BRETHREN:—We have this day chosen our beloved brethren (here insert the delegates names) to bear you this our letter, and sit with you in your annual meeting for 186– at _____. For all further necessary information we refer you to our statistics below:

Baptised	____	Total	____
Received by Letter	____	Number of Minutes	____
Restored	____	For Associational purposes	____
Dismissed by Letter	____	For Missions	____
Excluded	____	Time of Meeting	____
Dead	____	Ordained Ministers ..... (Their P. O.)	
White Males	____	Licentiates ..... " " "	
White Females	____	Pastor or supply ..... " " "	
Colored	____		

We are in [here make general remarks as to the condition of the church &c.] Pray for us. May the Lord be with and bless you.

_____, Clerk.

| | | |

STATISTICAL TABLE.

Churches.	County.	Post Office.	Names of Delegates.	Baptised	Rec'd by Letter	Restored	Dismis'd by Letter	Excluded	Dead	White Males	White Females	Colored	Total	No. Minutes	Assess'l Purposed	Missions	Time of Meeting	Ordained Ministers	Licentiates	Pastor or Supply.
Hillsboro	Scott	Hillsboro	W R Butler, A Eastland	25	3		1	1	1	18	44	3	65	25	5,50		4	2		W. R. Butler, P.
Union	Scott	Do.	T J Denson, H Dunn	25	4		1			35	42	7	85	25	5,00		2		1	W. R. Butler, S.
New Prospect	Scott	Forrest	T S Sterling	1	2					12	25	10	47	20	5,50		4			W. A. Hutson, S.
Ebenezer	Neshoba	Beach Springs	O D Booth, M B Kirk	2			4	1	1	17	18	16	61	15	4,00		2	1	2	D. D Booth, P.
Sardis	Scott	Sebastapol	W A Hutto, J M Pinley	12	4	1	1	4		29	35	9	73	30	5,00		1	1		W. R. Butler, S.
Enon	Neshoba	Union	O F Breland		5		6		1	5	15	1	21	10	1,00		2		1	W. Tullis, J. Herrington, } S.
Sulphur Spr'gs	Scott	Damascus	W Brewer	1			1	3	1	7	20	1	28	8	2,50		3			W. A. Hutson, S.
Pleasant Hill	Newton	Lake Station	Murrell, Clarke, Pace, Haralson	13	3	1	2	2	7	60	90	10	160	35	5,00		1	2		L. P. Murrell, P.
Zion	Kemper	Calveris Store	W. Moore, S S Windham	14	5	1	1	2	3	16	37	6	59	20	4,50		4			J. E. White, S.
Tallabatta	Newton	Battefield	J C Ellerbee, J M Alford				4			11	15	1	27	12	2 00		2	1		J. C. Ellerlee, P.
Beulah	Newton	Decatur	A Grissett, W Graham	2	1		7	1		16	50	7	73	25	2,50		4	1	1	A. Grissett, P.
Decatur	Newton	Do.	N Clarke, Bailiff, Cooper, Keith	18	6	2	2	2	2	28	86	44	168	35	6,00		1	1		N. L. Clarke, P,
Poplar Springs	Newton	Newton Stat'n	J Pierce. P S McCormick	6	8	2	3	1		20	40	1	61	25	5 00	.....	1			J. L. Matthews, S.
Pine Ridge	Newton	Lake Station	J D Parker, R C Small				3	1	1	14	23	8	45	15	3,00	11 50	2			D. P. Murrell, S.
Bethel	Newton	Newton Stat'n	E E Haral on, A P Wash	1	1		5	8	2				84	20	1125		3			L. P. Murrell, S.
Tallahala	Scott	Lake Station	J L Gresham, D Fore	6			1		1	15	24	2	41	30	5,00		1	1	1	S. King, S.
Garlandsville	Jasper	Garlandsville	J L Lattimore, W W Hardy	9	4		10	3	1	21	36	56	103	20	4 00		2	2	1	S. King, P.
Good Hope	Newton	Buckley's St'r	S Everett, C G Johnson	2	3	1	3	1	3	13	30	5	48	25	2,50		3			J. L. Matthews,
Mt. Pisgah	Jasper	Moss Hill	Not represented																	
Randall Hill	Jasper	Garlandsville	S Winders, N Watts	2	1	2	3	4	3					15	3,00					
Leaf River	Smith	Pineville	Letter	13	4	4	8	1	1	29	67	9	105	25	3,00		3	1		J. Williams, P.
Line Creek	Scott	Morton	W A Hutson, R Davis		4		4			11	20	2	33	15	6 25		1	1		W. A. Hutson, P.
Mt. Carmel	Smith	Homwood	A G Anderson, J W Moore	8	1		5		1	27	35	10	72	20	6,00					S. J. Hitt, S.
Hephziba	Newton	Hickory Sta'n	J E Ferguson	2	2		2	1		6	7		13	8	2,00		3			
County Line	Neshoba	Union	P Lansing, L L Viverct	8	14		1	1	3	11	53	2	46	15	1 50		1			A. Winstead, S.
Pinckney	Newton	Do.	E W Roebuck, F S Smith	4		1			1	12	28	3	43	20	4 00		4	1		L. P. Murrell, S.
Shiloah	Smith	Trenton	G W Gunn, P Davis	4	2		8		1	6	12		18	19	3,00		4	1		G. W. Gunn, P.
Fellowship	Lauderdale	Meridian	M D King, V L Murphy	29	5				3	25	56	27	91	20	8,25		3			
Bluff Springs	Neshoba	Union	J Herrington, W F Hunt	18	20				3		12	30	42	15	1,50		4	2		J. Herrington, P.
Herbert	Neshoba	Herbert	J S Thomas	27	8	1	8	12	2	14	64	3	81	20	2,00		2			A. Winstead, S.
Center Hill	Neshoba	Philadelphia	T Peoples, L Payne	9	9	1	10	4	9	13	23		36	15	1,50		3			A. Winstead, S.
Homewood	Scott	Homewood	Not represented																	
Siloam	Newton	Chunkey St'n	T Thames, J Giles	2	6		2	3	3	6	7		13	10	2,00		1	1		A. Grissett, S.
Liberty	Newton	Do.	D Dove, J Rigdon		3		1			6	9		15	8	1,00		3			D. Dove, P.
New Prospect	Newton	Sebastapol	W W Pervice	2	7			2		8	16	3	27	10	2,00		4			W. Hutto, S.

20 1844